

Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership (APNEP)
April 2021

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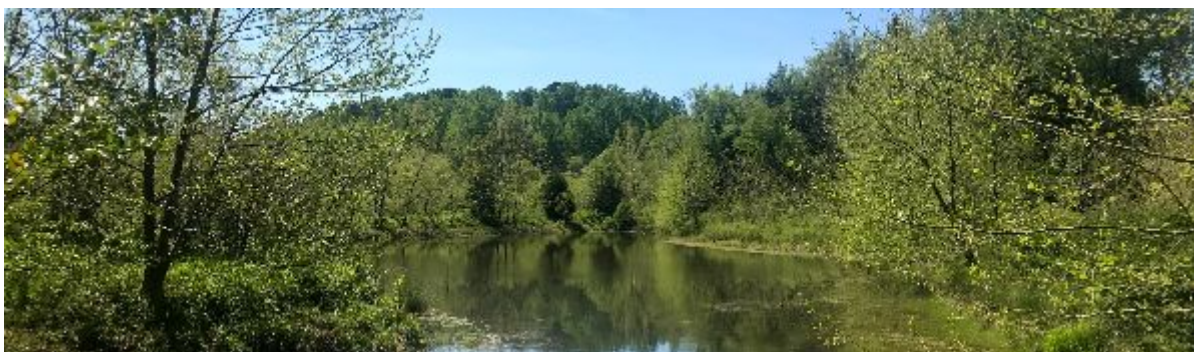
Albemarle - Pamlico

National Estuary Partnership



Sound Stories

April 2021



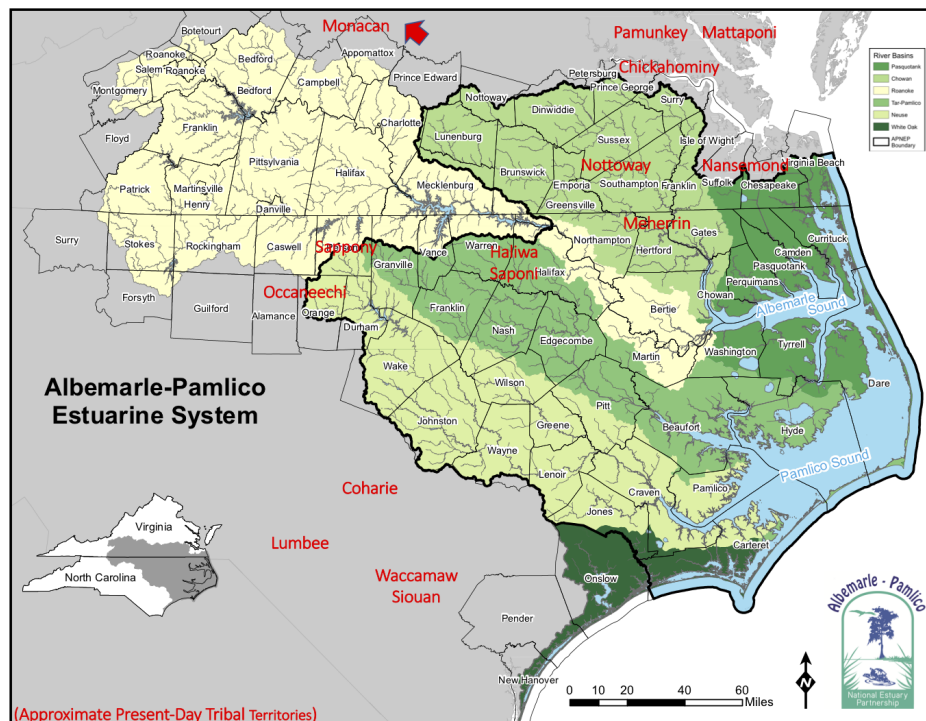
Happy belated Earth Day from everyone on the APNEP team! We hope that our partners working and living throughout the Albemarle-Pamlico watershed were able to take some time to celebrate on April 22nd. If you missed this year's celebration, you can check out the NC Department of Environmental Quality's [Earth Day webpage](#), or visit our website to learn where you can [volunteer](#) and celebrate Earth Day every day!

Here at APNEP, April has been busy with preparations for upcoming [submerged aquatic vegetation aerial mapping flights and accompanying fieldwork](#). We've also been grateful for the chance to help the APNEP-funded NC Museum of Natural Sciences' [Shad in the Classroom program](#) with shad egg deliveries to schools throughout the watershed.

We also want to make our partners aware that the 2021 RFP for the [Restore America's Estuaries National Estuary Program Coastal Watersheds Grant](#) is now open. Letters of intent are due by June 7th and a letter from APNEP as the local National Estuary Program is required at part of each application. Please reach out to us at apnep@ncdenr.gov for more information.

Sincerely,

APNEP News



Tribal Coastal Resilience Connections Project Update

APNEP's partnership with the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs, NC State University, and Virginia Coastal Policy Center to work with tribal communities in the Albemarle-Pamlico region to develop a strategy for incorporating resilience into tribal planning and community engagement processes is well underway. On May 11th, APNEP staff will be facilitating a [symposia panel discussion](#) at the [2021 Carolinas Climate Resilience Conference](#) detailing efforts and successes thus far. Going forward, the collaborative team working on the project will build towards creating a Tribal Coastal Resilience toolbox, create interactive skill building workshops, and develop interactive maps to assist with future resilience planning. The resulting information will also provide a platform that can be utilized to educate agency staff on considerations, perspectives, and traditional ecological knowledge unique to native communities.

Learn more about the Tribal Coastal Resilience Connections Project



RFP Now Open

[Restore America's Estuaries](#) has announced that they are now accepting applications for the [2021 National Estuary Program Coastal Watersheds Grant \(NEP CWG\) Request for Proposals](#). Now in its second year, the NEP CWG Program is a nationally competitive grants program designed to support projects that address urgent and challenging issues within our estuaries of national significance. As the local National Estuary Program, you'll need a letter of acknowledgement from APNEP. We'll share more information about the process soon; two informational webinars are scheduled, and LOI are due by June 7.

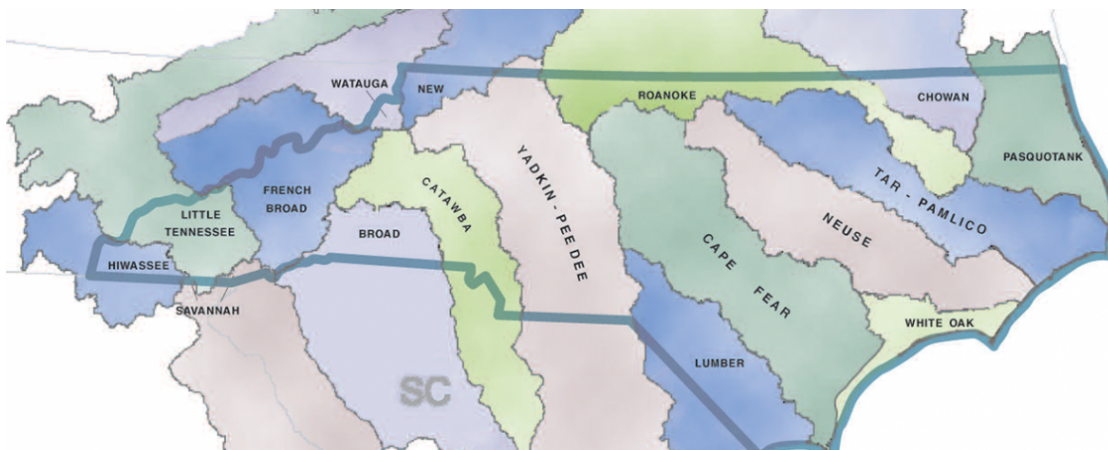
[Learn more about the NEP CWG](#)



Shad in the Classroom Program Introduces Children to Their Local Watersheds

APNEP and [NC Museum of Natural Sciences](#) staff have been hard at work this April delivering shad eggs for the APNEP-funded NC Museum of Natural Sciences' Shad in the Classroom program. Teachers and students care for these shad eggs and then release the shad, a historically and commercially important fish that is native to North Carolina, into rivers across the Albemarle-Pamlico watershed.

[Learn more about the Shad in the Classroom Program](#)



Pasquotank River Basin Plan Available for Public Review

The [2021 Draft Pasquotank River Basin Water Resources Plan](#) is available for public review and comment. The 2021 plan is the fourth document to be developed for the basin by the NC Department of Environmental Quality Division of Water Resources (DWR), and includes information about water quality and quantity. The basin is one of our [shared waterways](#) with Virginia.

Comments are due by close-of-business May 31st, 2021. Please email comments to forest.shepherd@ncdenr.gov. Comments may also be mailed through the postal service to: Forest Shepherd, Basin Planner, Division of Water Resources (DWR), 1611 MSC, Raleigh, NC 27699.

[Read the Draft Pasquotank River Basin Water Resources Plan](#)

Meeting Summaries

- **APNEP High-Salinity Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Subgroup Meeting (March 31st):** At their March meeting, the group solidified plans for 2021 SAV sampling, including determining sampling boundaries, optimal tidal windows for aerial mapping flights, and opportunities for partner support and collaboration.



Upcoming Events & Meetings

All meetings associated with APNEP's committees, Action Teams, and Monitoring & Assessment Teams are free and open to the public. For more information, please contact apnep@ncdenr.gov.

- **2021 Carolinas Climate Resilience Conference Symposia: Building Capacity for Climate Resilience in Albemarle-Pamlico Region Tribal Communities** | May 11th, 10:30 AM - 12:00PM ([Details](#))
- **APNEP Science and Technical Advisory Committee Meeting** | May 20th, 12:30 PM - 3:00 PM (contact apnep@ncdenr.gov for details)
- **APNEP-NC Coastal Federation Living Shoreline Action Team Steering Committee Meeting** | May 27th, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (contact apnep@ncdenr.gov for details)

Current Grant Opportunities



- May 4th: [319\(h\) Nonpoint Source Grant Funding](#)
- May 21: [SECOORA 2021 Education and Outreach RFP](#)
- June 1: [EPA Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement Program](#)
- June 1: [EPA Environmental Justice Small Grants Program](#)
- Ongoing: [NC Community Foundation Disaster Relief Fund](#)
- Ongoing: [NC Sea Grant Minigrants Program](#)

Grant details

Feature Spotlight



DEQ Launches New GIS Tool

The [NC DEQ Division of Water Resources](#) recently launched a new GIS tool called the DWR Locator Map! This tool provides access to the most commonly-searched water resource location & data information in North Carolina, and can be customized based on search needs.

Check out the map

What We're Reading

- [Seeds of Resilience May Be in Forests, Farms](#) (*Coastal Review Online*)
- ['This is environmental racism'](#) (*Washington Post*)
- ['Ghost' Forest Expansion Rate Alarming: Study](#) (*Coastal Review Online*)
- [Seeking Home Aboard the Night Heron](#) (Audubon)



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